

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 08098 181157Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FTC-01 SEC-01 JUSE-00 SP-02 USIA-06
AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04
OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07
NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /093 W
-----190109Z 060333 /21

R 181111Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4685
INFO AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL MILAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 8098

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORT INSPIRES PRESS SPECULATION ON
POSSIBLE CIA INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR

1. THE MAY 18 EDITIONS OF SEVERAL ITALIAN NEWSPAPERS REPORT
THE RELEASE OF CLOSED FILES BY THE SECURITY AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND INDULGE
IN SPECULATION ON WHAT THE OPENING OF FILES ON LOCKHEED
(NOW SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 16) TO THE PUBLIC WILL REVEAL.
DRAWING ON AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED MAY 17 IN THE WALL
STREET JOURNAL AND WHICH IN TURN NAMES AS ITS SOURCE A
"CLASSIFIED GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM", THE ITALIAN REPORTS
STATE THAT LOCKHEED, THE CIA, AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT
ARE PRESENTLY WORKING TO HALT THE RELEASE OF THE SEC'S
LOCKHEED ARCHIVES. THE MOST DETAILED ACCOUNT APPEARS
IN LEFT-OF-CENTER TURIN DAILY LA STAMPA UNDER THE BYLINE
OF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT VITTORIO ZUCCONI, WHO
STATES THAT THE GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM, DATED MARCH
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10, 1976, REVEALS "CLOSE TIES" BETWEEN FORMER CIA
ROME STATION CHIEF "ROCKY" STONE AND OVIDIO LEFEBVRE,
WHO PRESENTLY STANDS ACCUSED OF BEING THE PRIMARY
MIDDLE-MAN FOR ILLICIT PAYMENTS FROM LOCKHEED TO
HIGH GOI OFFICIALS. IT IS ALSO REPORTED THAT
THE DOCUMENT IDENTIFIES LEFEBVRE AS "A PERSON VERY
CLOSE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC".

ACCORDING TO THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, THE CIA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONSIDER INFORMATION IN THE SEC'S LOCKHEED FILES, IN PARTICULAR A DETAILED REPORT ON LOCKHEED BRIBES COMPILED BY A COMMITTEE OF SEC AND LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVES, "DANGEROUS" AND CAPABLE OF HAVING A "POTENTIALLY DISASTEROUS EFFECT ON THE ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE". ZUCCONI NOTES CIA DENIALS OF ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR, BUT STATES THAT THIS MAY NOT BE THE END OF THE STORY AND IMPLIES SOME SORT OF MURKY CONNECTION BETWEEN LOCKHEED, THE CIA, LEFEBVRE, AND PRESIDENT LEONE.

2. AMBASSADOR GARDNER IS PRESENTLY IN TURIN AS PART OF A SPEAKING TOUR IN NORTHERN ITALY. IF ASKED, HE PLANS TO STATE THAT HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THIS MATTER AND DECLINE COMMENT. THE EMBASSY WILL DO THE SAME.
GARDNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, DOCUMENTS, CORRUPTION, BRIBERY, ALLEGATIONS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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